Import Value of Petroleum Products

1508. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the import value of petroleum products anticipated for the next year; and

(b) what steps have been taken to reduce the quantity of such imports and save foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The value of the import of petroleum products for the year 1990-91 is yet to be finalised.

(b) Steps being taken to reduce the quantity of imports include:—

(i) increase in refining capacity by setting up new refinaries and by taking up expansion/debottlenecking projects in some of the existing refineries;

(ii) increase in crude oil production by intensification of exploration activities, intensification of work-over operations and use of enhanced oil recovery techniques;

(iii) effecting economy in the use of petroleum products by efforts towards increasing fuel efficiency in the user sectors.

Recently Government has also increased the prices of some selected petroleum products such as motor spirit and HSD to contain the rate of growth in demand for these products.

Supply of Petrol and Petroleum products at subsidised rates to J and K

1509. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that LPG, kerosene, petrol, diesel, etc. are being made available to the people in Jammu and Kashmir at special subsidised rates; if so, what are the details thereof product-wise; and

(b) what is the justification therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) There are schemes of freight subisidy for supply of LPG and kerosene for domestic use applicable in North Eastern States and hilly areas including the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

Under the schemes, with effect from 16.6.1988, no freight is charged from the refinery to depot and from depot to the wholesaler point in the case of kerosene. Similarly, no freight is charged from the refinery to the bottling plant and from the bottling plant to the LPG distributors in the case of LPG. Wherever supplies are made at the extension points and marketing and distribution is done by the State Government agencies, the transportation charges for deliveries upto the extension points are also fully subsidised. The freight subsidy is calculated and fixed at the rates as on 16.6.1988.

(b) The schemes referred to in the reply to the part (a) above were introduced in view of the fact that people living in hill areas had to bear the burden of higher transport costs in the supply of kerosene and LPG and with a view to conserve the forest resources used for purposes of light and fuel.

हवाई पट्टियों का निर्माण और उनमें सुधार

1510. **श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया:** क्या नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार देश में हवाई पट्टियों के निर्माण और उनमें सुधार लाने के कार्य पर अधिक ध्यान देने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) विमान सेवाओं के ढांचागत विकास और उनके रख-रखाव खर्च को कम करने के लिए तकनीकें विकसित करने के बारे में सरकार की क्या कार्य योजना है?

ऊर्जा मंत्री, साथ में नागर विमान मंत्रालय का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री आरिफ मोहम्मद खान): (क) से (ग) हवाई अड्डों के निर्माण और सुधार पर सरकार लगातार ध्यान देती रही है । हवाई अड्डों